

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.

August 23, 2010

**Raymond Hendee Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect Avenue**

President John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Other Board members present were Genie Taddeo, Eric Uhlig (joined in progress), Pat Fioretto, Sharon Lawson and Ted Smart. Also present were Superintendent Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendents Diane Betts and Sandra Stringer, Business Manager Becky Allard, Director of EIS/RtI Lynne Farmer, Director of Pupil Services Kathleen Nelson, Director of Buildings & Grounds Roy Jensen, Director of Technology Terry Bresnahan, Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm, and one member of the public.

The Board convened a Committee of the Whole: Finance at 6:32 p.m.

The Board adjourned from the Committee of the Whole: Finance at 7:20 p.m. and resumed as a Regular Board meeting at 7:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments

Ms. Angie Sites of 129 Stanley Avenue, Park Ridge, addressed the Board about the Before School Care Program at Jefferson School. Ms. Sites asked the Board to consider making 7:00 a.m. a standard starting time for the program rather than 7:30 a.m. She suggested that if the District made more parents aware of the program with an earlier starting time of 7 a.m., there would likely be enough working parents interested to warrant the earlier time. Ms. Sites noted that the program is paid for out-of-pocket by parents.

Dr. Bender said he would discuss the proposal with the ESC administrative team and follow up with Ms. Sites.

**UPDATE ON INSTITUTE DAY & OPENING
DAY OF SCHOOL**

**Update on Institute Day &
Opening Day of School**

Dr. Bender said both the Staff Institute Day on Friday, August 20th and the first day of school on August 23rd went well. Dr. Bender was the keynote speaker at the Institute Day, where he introduced himself to staff and explained his background. A key topic of his address was the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Bender described a successful opening day of school. Police officers were on duty at four of the buildings to ensure students' safety and will cover the other schools during the first week. Fire Department personnel were also in the area monitoring the start of the school year.

Dr. Bender praised Ms. Allard and Mr. Jensen for their role in preparing the schools for the children during a summer filled with major construction projects. He said air conditioning was appreciated by staff in buildings where it had not been available before. Mr. Heyde said he

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of Information

Dr. Bender brought to the Board's attention a FOIA request and an update on crossing guards, noting that all locations are covered, according to Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski. Field School parents have been advised that crossing guards at Prospect Avenue and Oakton Street will be reduced.

Dr. Bender mentioned the written update on construction projects in the Board packet. He again thanked Roy Jensen, Director of Buildings and Grounds, as well as the entire custodial staff, who did an excellent job on behalf of the District readying the buildings. He also commended the contractors who worked at Roosevelt, Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson Schools.

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, presented the major curriculum areas of focus and improvement goals for the Department of Student Learning for the school year. The key areas are: Literacy, Response to Intervention (RtI), Technology and Curriculum Review. All areas interconnect with the new Strategic Plan and the ongoing goal of improving student achievement. Learning goals will be shared with teachers, PTO's, the Curriculum Council, etc.

Last year's focus was on understanding the new reading framework for grades K-8, which includes the three levels of reading: teacher led, reading with, and independent reading. This year, there will be more staff development on the "reading with" section, with workshops and coaching planned.

In addition, teachers will be given minimum expectations; for example, how much time to spend on each reading level, therefore providing more consistency across the buildings. Staff will delve deeper into the Great 8 Reading Strategies and how to make natural connections between reading and writing in all subject areas. Information literacy, a.k.a. research skills, will also be an area of focus, and include how to integrate technology into research projects and the curriculum. Staff development for this year will include workshops and training in reading support as well as technology training, such as use of the new SMART Boards.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

At 8:06 p.m., it was moved by Board Member Lawson and seconded by Board Member Taddeo to adjourn to closed session. The vote was unanimous. The Board went into closed session to discuss the selection of a person to fill the Board vacancy position.

President

Secretary